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Applicant: Gates, *et al.*

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Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

FILING OF AN INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.97(b)

The attached list of citations on PTO Form 1449 is being submitted under the provisions of 37 CFR §1.56 and §1.97 for consideration by the United States Patent and Trademark Office, prior to the granting of this patent. Their inclusion herein should not, however, be construed as an admission that any particular cited document is effective prior art or that it discloses or renders obvious any aspect of the claimed invention. A copy of each cited document is enclosed, except U.S. Patent documents, and those references which are already part of the filewrapper. This statement is being filed within the time period specified in 37 CFR §1.97(b). No fee is required.

Respectfully submitted,



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